

Patent claims

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1. Process for the colouring of ceramics in porous or absorbent state, characterized in that the ceramics are translucent and metal ion solutions or metal complex solutions are used for the colouring.

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2. Process according to claim 1, characterized in that dental ceramics are coloured.

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3. Process according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the solutions contain at least one of the ions or complexes of the rare earth elements or subgroups.

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4. Process according to claim 3, characterized in that the solutions contain Pr, Er, Fe, Co, Ni or Cu.

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5. Process according to claim 3 or 4, characterized in that chlorides, acetates or alcohols as well as oxo complexes are used as salts.

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6. Process according to at least one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that dental ceramics are used in the pre-sintered state.

7. Process according to at least one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that dental ceramics based on zirconium oxide or aluminium oxide are used.

8. Process according to at least one of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that the ionic or complex-containing solutions are water- or alcohol-based.

9. Process according to at least one of claims 1 to 8, characterized in that the action time of the ionic or complex-containing solutions is a matter of hours, in particular under two hours, quite particularly under 1 hour and particularly preferably under 20 minutes.

10. Process according to at least one of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that the concentration of the solutions is 0.001 to 15 wt.-%.

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11. Process according to at least one of claims 1 to 10, characterized in that colouring takes place by immersion of the ceramic in the solutions, deposition of the solutions to the ceramic with the help of application instruments or by spraying of the solutions onto the ceramic.

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12. Process according to at least one of claims 1 to 11, characterized in that the ceramics to be coloured have a diameter of 10 mm, preferably 7 mm, and a height of 7 mm, preferably 5 mm.

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13. Process according to at least one of claims 1 to 12, characterized in that the ceramics are completely through-coloured.

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14. Kit, comprising

(i) at least one stock bottle with a metal ion or metal complex solution for the colouring of the ceramics,

(ii) a receptacle for the colouring, and

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(iii)

~~optionally~~ a screen.

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